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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

VOL. 3. NO. 21 WASHINGTON, D. C. SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1913. WHOLE NO. 125

WANT THE CONSTABULARY.

Erie, Pa., Aug. 23.—Mayor Stern called upon Sheriff Mooney to appeal to Governor Tener to send the State Constabulary, "the Black Cossacks," to this city, where there is a strike of metal workers. Sheriff Mooney conferred with the strike leaders over the situation.

The disorder of which the Mayor complains is caused by Burns operatives and hired thugs imported by the manufacturers. Two Burns men and a strikebreaker were arrested here last night for having shot three strikers. The strikers are in the Hamot Hospital in a serious condition.

The Metal Trades Council of this city has issued a statement addressed "to all organized labor," to the effect that for the past nine months a strike of the metal workers of Erie and vicinity has been in progress. The unions involved in the struggle are enumerated as follows, which is the order in which they became engaged in the fight: Molders' Union, No. 38; the Patternmakers' Association; the Machinists' Union and the Metal Polishers' Union. The fight on the side of the employers is being conducted by the Erie Manufacturers' Association. This association, according to the statement of the Metal Trades Council, has been advertising throughout the country for mechanics, who, when they come to Erie, discover that they have been brought here only to act as strikebreakers. The statement describes the protracted fight in the following paragraph: "Every power that possibly could be brought to bear has been used against the union men in Erie—injunctions, vicious without parallel; the blacklist and intimidation, beyond that which could have been expected in the Black Ages; the Mayor of the city has used his high office and the power of the police to persecute the striking molders, and last, but not least, the public press has been suppressed and prostituted into an abject silence, except to magnify a supposed violation of an injunction or where men have been arrested for unlawful assemblage,' the latter offense being because they made use of the public highways. Men and boys have been thrown into prison and defiance has been hurled at those who have suggested that the members of the Manufacturers' Association should be willing to meet their employes."

WON INCREASE BY STRIKE.

Granite City, Aug. 23.—The strike of the Carpenters, Machinists, and Steamfitters employed by the Corn Products Refining Company has been called off, the company agreeing to an increase of 3 cents an hour in the wages of all the strikers and have agreed to take back all who went out and discharge the strikebreakers and recognize the union. The carpenters, who have been out several weeks, were demanding an increase of from 35 cents to 40 cents per hour, which the company refused to grant. The machinists and steamfitters walked out following the company's refusal to grant the carpenters 40 cents an hour. A request was made for an arbitration committee of business men, and the committee was formed, but their services were not needed, however, as the company suddenly decided to capitulate and allow the men what they had asked for. Under the terms of the settlement all of the men in the three crafts that went out were reinstated in their old positions. The carpenters were granted their demands, while the machinists and steamfitters received an increase from 37 to 40 cents an hour.

UNUSUALLY SEVERE.

Cincinnati, Aug. 23.—Two of the most drastic sentences ever imposed in the State of Ohio were given two striking teamsters by Judge Fricke, in Municipal Court here, when he fined William Watts $250 and costs and sentenced him to thirty days in the workhouse, and Dixon Plumb $150 and sentenced him to thirty days in the workhouse. Charges against the two strikers were that they had "incited to riot," when, as matter of fact, their offense consisted of attempting to persuade another teamster to join the ranks of the strikers. Police officers and thugs in the employ of the express companies testified that the men had done their best to start the riot. Watts' sentence will keep him in prison for more than two years, as he has no money to pay the fine. Dixon must serve a little more than a year, as he also has no money.

CAPITOL NONUNION.

Jefferson City, Mo., Aug. 23.—Indications are that the new Capitol building here will furnish very little employment for union men. The foundation is being laid with nonunion labor throughout, despite strenuous protests of representatives of organized labor. M. J. Cassidy, secretary of the Building Trades Council of St. Louis, and other labor officials have reminded Gov. Major, Secretary of State Roach, and John P. Gordon of their written promise to see that union labor would be used in the construction work, but little satisfaction was secured. As in the case of the municipal bridge, the Capitol Commission claims the contract must be let to the lowest bidder, and union labor cannot be legally specified.

MEAT WAGON DRIVERS WIN.

Philadelphia, Aug. 23.—Several packing houses have settled with their striking meat wagon drivers and others are expected to follow soon. The drivers are to hereafter work ten hours a day and receive a minimum wage of $18 per week. They will also be permitted to wear their buttons. The strike lasted one week and involved over 400 men. They had heretofore been compelled to work 16 and 18 hours daily at $10 a week, commencing their day's labor shortly after midnight.

ANOTHER ONE ADDED.

Halifax, N. S., Aug. 23.—For some time past efforts have been made to secure the affiliation of a large independent local union in this city of Longshoremen with the I. L. A. Until recently little progress has been made, when a visit was paid to this city by Vice President Tighe, who succeeded, with the assistance of Secretary Joyce, of the local union, in having application made for charter. The new union is known as No. 862.

NEW WAGE SCALE.

Wheeling, W. Va., Aug. 23.—The wage scale of the Tin Plate Workers has been signed by the management of the Whitaker-Glessner Company. The company granted the requests of the men in every instance. The changes in the working conditions are many. The scale for Granite City, Ill., was also signed. This only leaves two lodges to be heard from in the tin plate industry.

MACHINISTS GET INCREASE.

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 23.—Danger of a strike of every machinist and helper on the Great Northern and Northern Pacific railroads is believed to be over, when the men were offered an increase of 1 cent an hour and other concessions.

TO ENFORCE THE LAW.

Washington, Aug. 23.—Steamship owners and agents from Washington and all the big seaports of the United States, held a conference with Acting Secretary of Commerce Sweet, Supervising Inspector General Uhler, of the Steamboat Inspection Service, Chairman Alexander, of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, Congressman Hardy, Senators Fletcher and Crawford, and representatives of the Masters, Mates and Pilots' Association, on enforcement of the "three mates" law of which Congressman Hardy was sponsor.

The conference was called in the office of Acting Secretary Sweet. The Hardy law has been in force for two months, requiring that all seagoing ships of 1,000 tons burden or over carry three mates. Many violations of the law have been reported, fines aggregating $500,000 having been remitted by the department, it being claimed by owners and agents that it is impossible to get the men for mates. At the conclusion of the conference Acting Secretary Sweet announced to the steamboat men that the law must and would be enforced, as he had no alternative. After at first denying that men could be had, the steamboat men promised to do everything in their power to get extra men. Atlantic Coast vessel owners were warned that the Department of Commerce will rigidly enforce the law requiring all vessels of 1,000 tons or over to have three licensed mates.

Vessel representatives met at the department and said they would exert every effort to comply with the law. The Seamen's Union asserts that enough competent mates can be secured to man all vessels subject to the act, but that the vessel owners are averse to meeting the additional expense.

TO OPPOSE IMMIGRATION.

Denver, Aug. 23.—Active steps are being taken to thwart the efforts of certain interested individuals and corporations in this section of the country to prevent the cheapening of native labor through the influx of thousands of laborers from Southern Europe after the opening of the Panama Canal in 1915. Action will be taken in support of this proposition at a meeting of the State Federation of Labor at Trinidad. Charges are made that steamship companies have sold up to date more than 125,000 tickets on the installment of 10 cents a week for passage to the Pacific ports through the canal. This charge is made by the Western Labor Immigration Association of Seattle. A conference is trying to be arranged for those interested early in November. The class of people to be dumped on the Pacific coast is claimed to be far more illiterate than those who have been flooding the country for years by other routes. The subject, in all probability, will be brought to the attention of the American Federation of Labor Convention, which meets in Seattle on November 10 next.

SWEEPING CHANGES.

Boston, Aug. 23.—The laws affecting young employes, which will cause sweeping changes in labor conditions in this State, will become effective September 1, and arrangements are now being made to rigidly enforce these laws in reference to the prohibited employes. Some of the provisions are: No boy under eighteen or no girl under twenty-one years of age can be employed in a store after 10 o'clock in the evening or for more than ten hours per day or fifty-four hours in a single week. They are also prohibited from working before 5 a. m. or after 10 p. m. in any factory, workshop, manufacturing, mechanical, or mercantile establishment, barber shop, boot black stand, public stables, brick or lumber yard, telephone exchange, telegraph or message office, or in the construction or repair of buildings, or in any wage industry carried on in tenement or other houses. The various other provisions of this law are too extensive to be quoted in full at this time.

STRIKE OF SHIP BUILDERS.

Washington, Aug. 23.—Recent advices from St. Petersburg, Russia, say:

"Almost all the ship-building works at Nicolaieff are idle, the workers being on strike. A bonus of 10,000 rubles on the completion of the Dreadnoughts now under construction offered to the men had had no effect. The general manager was hurriedly called from St. Petersburg and the naval minister is in constant telegraphic communication with Nicolaieff. The management of the admiralty works has informed the minister that they cannot accept responsibility for the punctual delivery of work in hand.

Out of 9,000 employes it is said that only some 20 apprentice "improvers" are not on strike. It is rumored that the companies will close down their works for two or three months, and that then martial law will be introduced at all yards and works connected with naval construction. The local press has been prohibited from publishing any news about strikes.

PRINTERS GET AN INCREASE.

Ottawa, Canada, Aug. 23.—Another 400 employes of the printing bureau here have been given a substantial increase in wages, dating from June 1 of this year. The 400 includes stereotypers, compositors, bookbinders, pressmen, and press feeders, and the increase, dating from June 1, will be paid to the men as soon as the accounting clerks of the bureau get the amounts made up. Compositors, bookbinders, and stereotypers will now draw $20 per week, pressmen, $21, and feeders, $15. This is an increase ranging from 50 cents to $1 per week.

BENEFIT THE PEOPLE.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 23.—In an address at the Commercial Club recently Secretary of the Interior Lane declared it was one of the first duties of the government to develop Alaska. The Secretary declared himself not only in favor of government construction of a railroad, but federal ownership of such a system. He wished to see the Alaska coal lands developed so that they would benefit all the people, and not fall into the hands of a monopoly.

WON AN ADVANCE.

Birmingham, Eng., Aug. 23.—An agreement has been reached by the employers' association and the brass workers and metal mechanics by which wages have been increased by rates ranging from 9d. (18 cents) to 2s. 6d. (61 cents). The wages are for a week of 54 hours and affect some 4,000 men. They do not apply to the brass casters, whose wages were increased some eighteen months ago.

DEMANDING AN INCREASE.

New York, Aug. 23.—The Suspender Workers' Union has demanded an increase of 25 per cent, a 54-hour week and recognition by such employers as have heretofore refused to deal with the organization. Unless these demands are granted a strike will probably follow in the course of a few days.

TO AVOID MINE DANGERS.

Pittsburgh, Aug. 23.—When the plans of Dean H. B. Mellor, of the school of mines, University of Pittsburgh, have been consummated, thirty-five instructors of the institution will have taught 5,000 men engaged in the mines of Western Pennsylvania how to avoid the dangers with which they are beset while at work. When the fall term of the university opens in October, the second step undertaken by the school of mines will be entered upon. Last January the first step was accomplished successfully. Eight classes of miners, aggregating about 150 men, were formed in the vicinity of Pittsburgh. Instructors visited these classes once a week, with the result that when the university term closed in June, fifty of the mine students passed successfully the State examinations for higher positions. The instruction of miners in Western Pennsylvania will be conducted gradually, the scope of the work being broadened until it takes in the entire district. It is the intention to form fourteen classes when the fall term opens. At least sixty towns will be considered for holding the classes. The university has received the hearty co-operation and indorsement of coal companies and mine operators, and the miners are reported to be much interested in the plans. Prof. J. Z. Zimmerman will have charge of the corps of instructors. The main object of the instruction is to systematize and standardize the work of the miners.

STRIKE AVERTED.

Joliet, Aug. 23.—It is reported that an agreement has been reached between the A. E. & C. Trainmen and the company, which will probably avert a lockout which as been threatened for some time past over a demand for an increase of 10 cents an hour in wages. The proposition submitted to the men is as follows: The third-rail trainmen, an increase of 3 cents an hour, beginning June 1; further increase of 1 cent an hour on June 1, 1914. Trainmen on the Aurora and Elgin lines, an increase of 1 1-2 cents per hour, beginning June 1 last, to continue until the expiration of the new agreement. On the interurban lines of the Aurora and Elgin Company, an increase of 2 cents an hour, beginning June 1 last, and a further increase of 1 cent an hour on June 1, 1914, was granted. The trainmen on the Aurora-Yorkville line received an increase of 2 cents an hour, beginning June last. These offers are based on a three-year agreement between the company and the men. It is understood that an increase in wages offered the substation operators, ticket agents, and shopmen amounts to practically a 5 per cent raise.

CLAYWORKERS IN REVOLT.

Plymouth, England, Aug. 23.—The greatest strike that ever took place in Cornwall has begun. Over 5,000 clayworkers have downed tools in the districts of Carclage, St. Stephen's, St. Dennis, and St. Mewan. The strikers agree that there can be no settlement of the present dispute until employers have fully recognized the Workers' Union. The movement of revolt is spreading to other districts. A tour of the clay district revealed work after work, pit after pit, dry after dry, deserted by workmen. The greater part of the area was covered by the strikers on the previous day, and their efforts were highly successful. The district of Bugle, where so many works are situated, was not touched until two days ago. The men demand recognition of their Union and a minimum wage of 25s a week. The men at Goonawarth, Coxbarrow, Cleaves, Cuddleton, Rock, Rocky Hill, and Wheal Martin have come out, while in the immediate neighborhood of the Imperial Works the clayworkers have also ceased work. Men left their employment at North Goonbarrow, East Goonbarrow, Rose Martin, and other works.

ENFORCING THE LAW.

New York, Aug. 23.—Forty-six manufacturers of this city and their employes were brought before the Justices of Special Sessions recently charged by agents of the Bureau of Fire Prevention with having violated the factory laws. Fines ranging from $20 to $75 were imposed, and the Justice warned five manufacturers found guilty of locking the doors of their plants while operatives were at work that if they were convicted of the same offense a second time, they would be sent to prison. "In the future," said Justice Zeller, speaking for the court, "it is the intention of this court to make an example of men who persist in violating the law. There is not going to be another Triangle Shirt Waist Co. fire if this court can help it."

COMBINATIONS CONTINUE.

London, Aug. 23.—One of the oldest Trade Unions in the world, the North of England Trimmers and Teemers Association, has now decided to amalgamate with the National Union of Railwaymen, one of the largest Trade Unions in the world, and also one of the oldest. Formal application for admission to the larger organization has been made, and the matter will be considered at the next meeting of the N. U. R. Executive. The membership of the latter now stands about 225,000, and that of the smaller union at 2,000. At the present time the smaller society is involved in a dispute on the North East Coast, which threatens to paralyze the transport industry in that district if a settlement is not reached.

"JUST LIKE RUSSIA."

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 23.—Seven of the striking girl shirtmakers were arrested in front of a clothing manufacturing establishment here yesterday on a charge of disturbing the peace. The girls were on picket duty. These were the first arrests in the garment workers' strike, which went into effect Wednesday. The girls denied that they had done anything to merit arrest. They were released on bond. They charged at police headquarters that a policeman said to them when they went on picket duty: "You are going to be treated just like you would be in Russia. You'll be tortured and have your tongue cut out."

AVERTED RAILWAY STRIKE.

San Francisco, Aug. 23.—G. W. Hanger, a member of the national board of mediation and conciliation, who came West recently to attempt the adjustment of differences between the Southern Pacific Railroad Company and its locomotive and train crews, has announced that a compromise has been effected that fully satisfied all parties to the controversy and averted the threatened strike.

SYMPATHETIC STRIKE.

New York, Aug. 23.—The committee of the cloakmakers, who are on strike in shops controlled by sub-manufacturers, reported yesterday that an independent strike of 1,500 cloakmakers started yesterday morning against manufacturers in this city who are doing work for employers in Philadelphia, where there is a general strike.

REVOLT OF COPPER MINERS

Defenseless Men and Women Attacked by Militia and Thugs.

WERE DRIVEN TO RESISTANCE

Described by John H. Walker, Representing Mining Department of A. F. of L.

Calumet, Mich., Aug. 23.—On the 23d of July 15,000 men laid down their tools and came out on strike.

Previously these men had worked in the copper mines of the Upper Peninsula. These mines are known as the Calumet and Hecla Copper Company, and are owned and controlled by men who have their homes in Brookline, suburb of Boston, Mass. Some time before coming out on strike, these men had organized and became members of the Western Federation of Miners. They had been working a so-called ten-hour day. They were more than an average of eleven hours per day underground. Their wages would not average $2.20 per day. I have seen their statements and made a personal investigation of the matter. As low as 27 cents has been paid for nine shifts work; another got $1.61 for nineteen shifts work. Some received as high as $3 per day.

And to cap it all, the companies decided to make the miners handle the drilling machine single (they weigh over 200 pounds) which had formerly been handled double. When a person knows what it means drilling hard rock, with a machine of that type, operated by compressed air, sometimes on a staging up in a slope amid dangerous roof and hanging rock, with not one breath of air except the exhaust from the machine, the light just a small flicker in the dark, you can understand why they revolt.

The men held meetings, decided to request recognition of their union, an eight hour working day, a minimum wage of $3 for underground men, and a proportionate increase for those working above ground, and that two men be allowed to work on the machines as formerly.

They requested a joint conference with representatives of the company to try to come to an agreement on these questions. Their requests were met with scorn and contempt, and a decision to strike followed. At first the company refused to take the situation seriously, stating that the strike would collapse before the end of a week; that they had ruled those men for fifty years and had never recognized a union or treated with their men in that way; that they had always done as they pleased, and that they proposed to continue to do so. The strike is starting on the fourth week, and out of their seventy-nine mines they have not been able to get one ton of ore mined, trammed and hoisted, notwithstanding the press has announced that the strike was over and practically all the men back to work.

Since the companies have realized that the men are in earnest they have tried every means known to the most vicious, heartless, and conscienceless slave-driving corporation to break the strike, but so far have failed utterly. The Governor sent in the militia. The Sheriff gave his office to the Waddell-Mahon strong-arm gunmen, imported from the slum districts of New York and other large cities.

The press has maliciously slandered and deliberately lied about the miners' cause, the miners, and their representatives. The militiamen have driven their horses on top of peaceful citizens on the sidewalks, beaten up and intimidated the miners in every way known to a professional strike breaker in an effort to discourage or scare them into going back to work as slaves to the copper mine owners. In fact, Gen. Abbey, in command of the troops, only differs from Chief Strike-breaker Farley in that his work is done in a government uniform, in the name of the State, and is paid direct out of the people's money for his service. He is even more able than Farley would be, in my judgment, in using the militia as scab herders, strikebreakers, and black-leg protectors.

A certain living mummy, who never did a day's work in his life, and don't know anything about what it is to earn a dollar by honest labor, once said a scab was a hero. Well, Gen. Abbey, under Gov. Ferris, is trying to make a hero of that kind out of the militia of the State of Michigan. They have shot people in the back, brow-beaten men and boys, insulted women and girls, and, after filling up on beer and whisky sent them by the mine owners, swaggered up and down the streets with their big guns and sabers, a disgrace to the rottenest government on earth, let alone ours; a standing menace to peace and decency. The imported Waddell-Mahon man-killers have murdered two men in cold blood, the most cowardly and wantonly brutal and utterly unwarranted butchery I ever had any knowledge of. They seriously wounded two others, powder burnt the fact of a baby, and shot a bullet through its clothes, while it was being held in the arms of its terror-stricken mother, while three other little tots were crouched around her knees. These people were in their own home, engaged in taking their evening meal, when the outrages were committed. Hundreds of others have been insulted and beaten up by these gutter ruffians and the militia has always been on the scene to encourage them in their devilish work. Notwithstanding all these things, the men are standing as firm as the day they came out, as solid as a stone wall, determined to win, no matter how long it takes or at what cost. They are making a wonderful fight. The copper barons have heretofore succeeded in keeping practically all other organizations from being established here.

If these boys win it will mean 50,000 members in the other trades, and they will win if we can only furnish them enough assistance to keep them from starving and freezing. I believe other organizations should send their men in here to get their people organized, so that we can all work to the best advantage. It is too good an opportunity to let pass. If we win, the copper country could be made a fit place to live in for men who work for a living.

HELP US.

NEW CHIEF CLERK NAMED.

Washington, Aug. 23.—Ethelbert Stewart, of Illinois, has been appointed by Secretary of Labor Wilson as chief clerk of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of of Labor. Mr. Stewart succeeds G. W. W. Hanger, who was recently appointed by the President as a member of the new Board of Mediation and conciliation.

HAVE UNITED.

London, England, Aug. 23.—Postal Clerks' Association and the Postal Telegraph Clerks' Association have amalgamated, with a total membership of 11,500. This action was accomplished by referendum vote, the vote being for amalgamation: Postal Clerks, 6,227, against 882; Postal Telegraph Clerks, 4,082 for and 1,290 against.

READY TO CALL STRIKE.

Denver, Colo., Aug. 23.—Gov. E. M. Ammons prepared to exert all the influence of the State administration to avert the threatened strike of coal miners in Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah. He ordered Edward Brake, Deputy State Labor Commissioner, to visit the Southern Colorado fields, locate the trouble at once and make a report on the exact conditions. Frank J. Hayes, international vice president of the United Mine Workers of America, who is in Denver today, said he has full authority to call a strike if the conditions warrant it. Recognition of the union, Hayes declared, will be insisted on by the miners.

The mine workers' vice president said today that the strike, if called, will affect 20,000 men in District 15, comprising Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico.

"That the United Mine Workers are willing to back up the miners in Southern Colorado if they are forced to strike is apparent from the assessment announcement sent me by President White," said Hayes Friday. "We can get $400,000 a month for an extended period of time if necessary. In this day of enlightenment strikes are the last weapons of wage earners and we never indulge in one unless employers arrogantly refuse to arbitrate differences or such arbitration utterly fails to recognize the justice of our claims." The Governor's office is hopeful that early next week it would be possible to get the operators of the Southern fields and the miners' representatives together in conference.

INTERESTING FIGURES.

London, England, Aug. 23.—Some interesting figures are given in the reports just published of the central committees of Austrian trade unions for 1912. During the first few months of the year the number of trade unionists increased by 30,000, but this was followed by a setback, partly due to the outbreak of the Balkan War and partly to the secession of nearly 5,000 "Czech separatists." Still, during the year the number of unionists in the federation rose by 6,500 to 428,363. The receipts for the year amounted to about £400,000, and the funds now amount to about £600,000, of which the richest union, that of the printers, holds £156,000. The number of women in the unions, which twenty years ago was only 2,200, has risen to more than 50,000. An interesting illustration of the absurdity of the capitalist division of the world into nations is the fact that in the so-called "nation" or "empire" of Austria the trade unionists are made up of the following quite distinct races: 222,000 German-Austrians, 70,000 Czechs (in addition to the 5,000 separatists), 20,000 Poles, 9,000 Italians, 6,000 Slovens and 1,000 Ruthens—all united for protection against the common enemy, the capitalism of that part of the globe which the maps call "Austria," and of the rest of the world.

CONTINUES TO GROW.

Manchester, England, Aug. 23.—Two and a quarter million workers will be represented at the Trade Union Congress, which opens here on September 1. This figure is an advance of a quarter of a million on the number of Trade Unionists represented at last year's Congress. This great increase is due partly to the number of new unions which have joined the Congress, but mainly to increases of membership of the old unions. The Miners' Federation, for example, reports an increase of 50,000 members, the Shop Assistants one of 37,000, the two Dockers' Unions, 25,000; the Gas Workers, 11,000; the Amalgamated Weavers, 10,000; Boot and Shoe Operatives, 9,000; Card and Blowing Room Operatives, 8,000; Boiler Makers, 7,000; Clerks, 4,000; Amalgamated Union of Labour, 4,000, and Postmen's Federation, 2,600. Two newly affiliated unions in the building trade have a membership of 14,000. Fraternal delegates will attend the Congress from the United States, Canada, Germany, and France.

BUILDING TRADES STRIKE.

Peoria, Ill., Aug. 23.—The building operations in this city are tied up by the strike of 4,000 skilled laborers.

Nearly $3,000,000 worth of property is affected. Nine unions are taking part in the strike. The strike was caused by the refusal of the contractors to recognize the unions. Officials of the Building Trades Council reported that unless their demand to have the Building Trades Council recognized by all the contractors was met that they would carry on the strike indefinitely.

Wages have not entered into the dispute. The Building Trades Council has demanded that every employe must have a card from their councils.

The trades affected by the strike are steel workers, plumbers, lathers, steamfitters, hoisting engineers, painters, tinners, electricians, and building laborers. Carpenters and bricklayers are the only two organizations that are not affiliated with the local Building Trades Council.

HE SAYS IT'S "EIGHTEEN."

Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 23.—Attorney General Hogan notified Miss M. Edith Campbell, of the Board of Education, of Cincinnati, that in his opinion the word "eighteen" in the new children's code should read "sixteen," as that was clearly the intention of the framers of the law. The law says a girl does not have to attend school after she is sixteen years old, but cannot go to work until she is eighteen. According to Mr. Hogan's ruling employers may now engage girls who have passed their sixteenth year, or retain those in their employ who are above that age. That is how the Attorney General nullifies action of the Legislature.

MORE SACRIFICES.

Clifton, Ariz., Aug. 23.—Nine miners were killed and one probably fatally injured when a cable pin snapped at the Coronado mine and two ore cars, carrying twelve tons of ore and thirteen miners, dashed down a thirty-eight degree grade for a distance of 3,300 feet. The cars and their passengers had just been lowered over the brink of the grade, which is one of the longest and steepest in the world, when the pin holding the cable attached to the cars snapped, the safety chains broke, and the cars started downward like a shot.

OH, THE SLUMP!

New York, Aug. 23.—According to the Wall Street Journal, the estimated output of the Lake Superior camp for July was 10,432,000 pounds of refined copper, a decrease of 6,672,756 pounds from June, or 38 per cent. Production last month was the lowest in over a decade, at least, and was the first time that the monthly production of that camp has fallen below 15,000,000 pounds in over nine years, or since February, 1904. The strike which started on July 23 was, of course, the main cause for the slump.

NEW MEAT CUTTERS' UNION.

San Diego, Cal., Aug. 23.—The Butchers and Meat Cutters have formed a new union, including a large majority of the men engaged in that calling in this city.

INJUNCTION GRANTED.

Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 23.—Judge John E. Sater, of the United States Court, granted a restraining injunction against the strikers at the Phillips Sheet and Tin Plate Company of Steubenville, Ohio, on application of the Philips Sheet and Tin Plate Company. The restraining order was of the usual sweeping nature, and named fifty-three members of the Amalgamated Association who have been active in the strike, both at Steubenville and Wierton, W. Va. This action was taken on the part of the company because it realized that the battle up to that time had been largely in favor of the men. Realizing that it was necessary to call in the power of the government to assist in defeating the desire of the men to secure better working conditions, this action was taken. The issuing of the injunction was bitterly fought by the attorneys representing the strikers, and the hearing lasted for three days. Judge Sater laid down the general theory that while a man may refuse to work he must not deny that right to others. He said further: "Labor leaders should see that the men under them and their sympathizers should not make threats or use violence to gain their ends. They may use persuasion, but not coercion. This company has a right to use persuasion in getting the men to work. They also may lock out men, but neither the strikers nor the company have a right to use means contrary to law." The counsel for the strikers at the Steubenville plant announced that an appeal will be taken for a new hearing before the United States Circuit Court of Appeals.

SECURES RECOGNITION.

Pittsburgh, Aug. 23.—The building laborers employed on one of the large department stores in this city, made a demand for an increase of 3 1-8 cents per hour, the previous wage having been 28 1-8 cents. The demand was refused by the contractors. The men ceased work, being supported in their demand by the hoisting engineers. The trades named being affiliated with the Building Trades Council, the matter was immediately taken up and general strike was threatened by all the mechanics employed on the building. Announcement was made by the Master Builders' Association that a lockout would be ordered on three large buildings under construction and other building operations valued at about $6,000,000. Conference between the Building Trades Council representative and the Master Builders' Association was brought about, which resulted in an adjustment of the dispute. Question of the increased wages for the laborers will be left to arbitration. An agreement was entered into between the representatives of the Building Trades Council and the Master Builders' Association, whereby each agrees to recognize the other and avoid future difficulties, if possible. This is the first time such an agreement has been entered into since 1903.

BOILERMAKERS' STRIKE ENDS.

Boston, Aug. 23.—Three hundred boilermakers who had been on strike for nearly eleven weeks have just returned to work, their differences having been adjusted in conference before the State board of conciliation and arbitration. The men returned to eight of the thirteen plants originally affected by the strike, but the other 200 strikers probably will not return until agreements are reached with the five remaining plants. International Vice President John J. Dowd, of the Boilermakers' Union, expressed gratification at the return to work of a majority of the strikers. He will remain in Boston directing the strike until all differences are finally adjusted. Under the agreement reached by the employers and employes, all grievances are to be adjusted either individually or through shop committees. If within sixty days any grievances remain unattended to the State board of conciliation and arbitration will be called upon. The decision of the board will be final and binding on both sides.

COMPROMISE ENDS STRIKE.

Schenectady, N. Y., Aug. 23.—The strike between the Shanley Company and the Excavators' Union, which has tied up all excavating work in this city for two days, has been settled. The company conceded what the men demanded, namely that all men discharged should be paid off at once and the men agreed to give a days' notice in case of contemplated strike, in order that there shall be a chance for arbitration. Nonunion employes will be given an opportunity to join the union and if they refuse, their places will be filled by union men. When men are discharged they shall receive their wages the same day, and when they are laid off indefinitely they are to be paid on their regular pay day. The union agrees to give the company several days' notice before going on strike. Time and a half is to be paid for overtime and holidays, boots furnished when necessary, and a fixed pay day, either Friday or Saturday, agreeable to the men.

TREATED BRUTALLY.

Santos, Brazil, Aug. 23.—We learn that the Brazilian government has recently treated all workers associating themselves with the trade union movement most despotically and brutally. The reason for same may be found in a dockers' strike which took place at Santos and which passed off peacefully. After the strike four Spaniards were arrested and deported without any offense having been proved against them. Twenty-eight Spanish workers are languishing in prison at Rio de Janeiro, transportation awaiting them also. The government describes them as "disturbers of the peace," as "dangerous anarchists," and uses such expressions as an excuse for the most shameful persecutions of the workers.

RESUMES OPERATION.

Fall River, Mass., Aug. 23.—For the past fifteen weeks what is known as the Iron Works Company, employing some 15,000 textile workers, has been closed down. This idleness was not the result of any strike or threatened strike on the part of the employes of the company. No satisfactory reason has been assigned for the long shut down. The various textile unions have been compelled to pay out several thousand dollars in support of their members during the idleness which has resulted. The announcement of the opening of the factory on Monday last, was received with much satisfaction by the various workers in this industry.

RAISE AVERTS A STRIKE.

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 23.—Negotiations which have been pending between the telegraph operators of the Northern Pacific and the officials of the road concerning demands for higher wages and better working conditions have been satisfactorily adjusted. The operators had voted almost unanimously to strike if an acceptable adjustment was not secured. The terms agreed upon were an increase in salary, shorter hours, Sunday overtime in some of the larger offices, and partial abandonment of the "split" trick.

NEW ZEALAND ARBITRATION.

Christ Church, N. Z., Aug. 23.—The Arbitration Court of New Zealand has made an award dealing with the work of journalists. It has dealt with almost every trade carried on in the Dominion, but this is the first time that it has been called upon to intervene in the methods of conducting a profession. The newspaper proprietors were cited to appear before the court by the Christ Church Union of Journalists, and the dispute was argued at great length by a judge, who is President of the Court, and two assessors, representing the two sides. Journalists in nearly all branches of the profession were involved, but the Court decided that its award should apply only to reporters and proofreaders. It has fixed a reporter's working day at twelve consecutive hours, including meal hours. Except in special circumstances a reporter cannot be brought back to work until after an interval of at least ten hours from the completion of his day's work. Any time worked in excess of this must be paid for within the next fourteen days, either in time off at the rate of an hour and a half for each hour worked, or in cash at the rate of half a crown an hour. A reporter must be allowed one clear day and one clear evening off in seven, and two weeks' holiday on full pay in each year. The salaries fixed are: Senior reporters, £3 15s; general reporters, £5; junior reporters, £3 10s; cadets, first year, £1 5s; second, £1 15s; third, £2 5s; casual reporters, 10s for half a day or 15s per whole day. In ordinary awards the court has made it a practice to insert a clause providing that when workers are engaged preference must be given to members of Trades Unions, if they are as qualified as nonunionists. The newspaper proprietors strongly opposed the application of this principle in the journalists' dispute on the ground that it would bring the reporters into close affinity with Trade Unionism generally and would prejudice the news columns of the journals, especially during strikes and other industrial troubles. To prevent this the court has provided that although preference to Unionists is to be granted, the Journalists' Union must maintain an independent existence and must not join the Trades Council or any other association of Trades Unions.

IT DID NOT WORK.

Indianapolis, Aug. 23.—A humorous situation developed here early today when officials of the traction companies entering Indianapolis were sleepily awaiting for trainmen employed by the various lines to emerge from a building where they last night completed the formation of a union. The conductors and motormen began their session early last evening, and shortly afterward officials of the various interurban lines drove to the hall in automobiles and trained the headlights of their machines on every exit. During the entire night the officials remained at their posts declaring they would not leave until the employes came from the building. The trainmen who had secretly formed their union, appeared to be satisfied with the conditions and chose to remain in the hall rather than to leave and be recognized by their superiors. Application has been forwarded to the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes for charter, which will arrive in a few days. In the meantime demands are being formulated and will be presented to the company. Rezin Orr, General Organizer of the Association and one of his associates, were attacked and badly beaten up by the thugs.

GLOVE WORKERS' CONVENTION.

Chicago, Aug. 23.—The eighth annual convention of the Glove Workers Union of America which recently held its meeting in this city has completed its work, and selected Detroit as the next place of meeting. Preparations were made for extending the influence of the organization, and active work will be begun to add new unions to the International. The constitution was taken up and a complete revision of that document will be made. The convention also adopted the initiative and referendum for all proposed changes to the constitution in the future. All propositions from local unions receiving the proper indorsement will hereafter be submitted to the referendum. The following officers were elected for the ensuing two years: General President, Agnes Nestor, Chicago, Ill.; First Vice President, William S. Kerr, Milwaukee, Wis.; Second Vice President, Rafael Viscosi, Gloversville, N. Y.; Third Vice President, Clara Martyn, Detroit, Mich.; Fourth Vice President, Ida Kindt, Milwaukee, Wis.; Fifth Vice President, Nora Shafer, De Kalb, Ill.; Sixth Vice President, Fred Mowers, Ripon, Wis.; Secretary Treasurer, Elizabeth Christman, Chicago, Ill.

TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

Vera Cruz, Mexico, Aug. 23.—A conference has taken place here for the purpose of calling together a committee for a Mexican Trade Union Congress. The projected congress will, above all, deal with the question of organizing the Mexican proletariat and agrarianism, which has played such an important role in the civil wars of the last few years. Having regard to the crippling effect that these wars have on all departments of public activity, the efforts of the Mexican workers are all the more praiseworthy and gratifying.

SHOE FACTORY SIGNS UP.

Lynn, Mass, Aug. 23.—Recently the Thompson-Crooker Shoe Company of this city, one of the largest manufacturers of women's shoes in the world, signed an agreement with the officials of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, thus adding another victory to the long list secured by that organization recently. This is one of the largest manufacturers of women's shoes in the world and no doubt will result satisfactorily to the firm.

DECISIVE RESULTS.

Baltimore, Md., Aug. 23.—Cloakmakers' Union, No. 4, of this city recently demanded an increase in wages and other improvements in the working conditions of its members. Employers not being willing to make the concessions desired, a strike was called, which resulted in practically all the manufacturers in this city signing up agreements, and all the members of the organization have returned to work.

LONGSHOREMEN IN ALASKA.

Washington, Aug. 23.—Information has just been received that a charter has been issued to a local union of Longshoremen at Juneau, Alaska, which will be known as Local Union, No. 28. This is the first local union of Longshoremen to be organized in Alaska.

NEW BLACKSMITHS' UNION.

Duluth, Aug. 23.—A new union of Blacksmiths has just been completed in this city by Vice President A. L. Anderson, embracing nearly 90 per cent of the men working at that industry in this city.